

REMARKS

This is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/122,447, filed on April 16, 2002, and allowed on May 20, 2003.

Claims 1-46 are being presented for examination on the merits. Favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the above-identified application are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Lawrence A. Stahl
Registration No. 30,110

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

LAS:eyw

DC_MAIN 141796 v 1